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FOR HODDING CARTER FROM PA/PRESS

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TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE)

SUBJECT: TRAVELING NEWS SUMMARY, APRIL 23, 1978

NO. 18

NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON POST--MURRAY MARDER FROM MOSCOW, PAGE 1

LEAD: "THREE DAYS OF NEGOTIATIONS IN THE KREMLIN PRODUCED ONLY LIMITED ADVANCES AND FAILED TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION ON A NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL PACT, OFFICIALS BLUNTLY ACKNOWLEDGED LAST NIGHT."

OTHER POINTS:

--BOTH SIDES SAID THE ATMOSPHERE WAS FREE OF THE "GRIM CONFRONTATION TONE" OF LAST YEAR.
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--SPOKESMAN CARTER CAUTIONED REPORTERS TO BE RESTRAINED AND STATED THAT THE TWO SIDES ARE NOT IN A "BREAKTHROUGH SITUATION."

--VANCE HAD DELIBERATELY SET EXPECTATIONS LOW ENROUTE TO MOSCOW, STATING THAT THE MEASURING ROD WOULD BE THE POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE.

--SPOKESMAN CARTER STATED THAT THE TONE WAS GOOD, WITHOUT "DISCORD OR HARSH CHARACTERIZATIONS."

--ONLY SEVEN AMERICAN NEWS PERSONNEL WERE PERMITTED TO SEE BREZHNEV AT THE BEGINNING OF THE NEGOTIATING SESSION WITH VANCE IN THE KREMLIN; ALL AGREED THAT HE LOOKED BETTER THAN LAST YEAR. SPOKESMAN CARTER CONFIRMED THIS IMPRESSION.

--SPOKESMAN CARTER SAID THERE ARE "NO PLANS, TO DATE" FOR A BREZHNEV-CARTER SUMMIT.

--SPOKESMAN CARTER STATED THAT THERE HAD BEEN "SOME MOVEMENT" ON THE UNRESOLVED SALT ISSUES, WITHOUT DISCLOSING DETAILS. BUT HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE THREE MOST DIFFICULT ISSUES HAD NOT BEEN RESOLVED: BACKFIRE, IMPROVEMENT OF OR ADDITION TO DELIVERY SYSTEMS, AND TRANSFER OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY.

--VANCE ALSO REVIEWED OVERALL U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS: MIDEAST, COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN, AND AFRICA POLICY.

NY TIMES--BERNARD GWERTZMAN FROM MOSCOW (PAGE 1 WITH PICTURE OF VANCE AND BREZHNEV)

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LEAD: "THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION SAID TODAY THAT THEY HAD NARROWED THE DIFFERENCES HOLDING UP A NEW AGREEMENT LIMITING STRATEGIC ARMS AND WOULD INTENSIFY EFFORTS TO CONCLUDE SUCH AN ACCORD 'AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME.'"

OTHER POINTS:

--JOINT COMMUNIQUE UNDERSCORED VIEW OF THE TWO SIDES THAT MODEST PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE.

--AMERICAN OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME MOVEMENT BUT THAT ADDITIONAL EFFORTS WERE NEEDED TO OVERCOME THE REMAINING OBSTACLES.

--SPOKESMAN CARTER SAID THAT VANCE FELT HE HAD ACHIEVED HIS BASIC OBJECTIVES: PROGRESS TOWARD NARROWING THE DIFFERENCES AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE ATMOSPHERE.

--SOVIETS NO LONGER SEEM TO HOLD THE U.S. SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR FAILURE TO REACH AN AGREEMENT, ACCORDING TO TASS STATEMENT.

--BREZHNEV SEEMED HEALTHIER THAN LAST YEAR.

--NO DETAILS WERE PROVIDED ON THE PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATIONS, "WHICH BARELY TOUCHED ON ANY SUBJECT OTHER THAN ARMS."

--THE ADMINISTRATION HOPES TO CONCLUDE AN ARMS AGREEMENT

BY THE END OF THE SUMMER OR IN THE FALL.

--SPOKESMAN CARTER SAID ENOUGH PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE ON THE UNRESOLVED ISSUES TO LET THE NEGOTIATING TEAMS IN GENEVA CONTINUE THE DISCUSSIONS.

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REUTER: ROY GUTMAN FROM LONDON

LEAD: "SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE ARRIVED HERE TODAY FROM MOSCOW SATISFIED PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE TOWARD A NEW STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TREATY (SALT) AGREEMENT BUT CONCERNED THAT THE TALKS MIGHT BE JEOPARDIZED BY DIVULGING DETAILS."

OTHER POINTS:

--BEFORE LEAVING MOSCOW, VANCE SAID SOME PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE AND THE TALKS HAD BEEN "USEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE."

--VANCE SAID AN ENDURING STRUCTURE OF PEACE MUST BE BUILT "BRICK BY BRICK, WITH WORKMANLIKE AND REALISTIC STEPS." AN AIDE SAID THE TALKS ADVANCED "BY A FEW BRICKS" PROSPECTS FOR SALT 2.

--OFFICIALS ON THE PLANE SAID THEY WERE ENJOINED FROM DIVULGING DETAILS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

--A HIGH U.S. OFFICIAL SAID THE NEXT STEP WOULD BE A GENEVA MEETING BETWEEN WARNKE AND SEMYONOV, THEN AN ADDITIONAL VANCE-GROMYKO MEETING, POSSIBLY IN NEW YORK NEXT MONTH.

--THE OFFICIAL SAID THAT PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE AND NODDED WHEN ASKED IF THAT PROGRESS HAD MATCHED VANCE'S OBJECTIVES WHEN HE ARRIVED.

--SOVIET OFFICIALS EXPRESSED GREAT SENSITIVITY TO LEAKS ABOUT THE NEGOTIATIONS, WITH KORNIENKO COMPLAINING THAT A NEWS AGENCY HAD REPORTED THAT THE U.S. POSITION HAD PRE-UNCLASSIFIED

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VAILED ON THE ISSUE OF TRANSFERRING CRUISE MISSILE TECHNOLOGY TO ITS ALLIES.

--WHEN AMERICAN OFFICIALS QUESTIONED REPORTERS IN THE TRAVELING PARTY ABOUT THIS, NONE ADMITTED FILING SUCH A

REPORT.

UPI - JIM ANDERSON FROM LONDON

LEAD: "US OFFICIALS SAID SUNDAY SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS WAS ACHIEVED IN THE LATEST SALT NEGOTIATIONS IN MOSCOW BUT DECLINED TO DISCLOSE DETAILS, SAYING THEY FEARED IT COULD 'SCREW UP' NEGOTIATIONS."

OTHER POINTS:

- US OFFICIALS CONFIRMED THAT PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE, BUT REFUSED TO DETAIL SPECIFIC AREAS OF AGREEMENT.

- AMERICAN OFFICIALS SAID THEY FOUND THAT GROMYKO HAD "A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF LATITUDE" DURING THE TALKS. VANCE PAID HIM AN "UNUSUAL PERSONAL TRIBUTE" ON HIS DEPARTURE.

NBC TV NEWS

ANCHOR: IN THE KREMLIN TODAY SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE ENDED THREE DAYS OF TALKS WITH SOVIET LEADERS ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND OTHER MATTERS. IF ANYTHING STARTLING HAPPENED, THE COMMUNIQUE DIDN'T REVEAL IT.

VALERIANI: THOUSANDS OF RUSSIANS FLOCKED TO LENIN'S TOMB IN RED SQUARE TO MARK THE BIRTHDAY OF THE FATHER OF SOVIET COMMUNISM.

LENIN'S BIRTHDAY IS A FAVORITE TIME FOR RUSSIANS TO GET UNCLASSIFIED

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MARRIED. IT'S ALSO A TIME WHEN RUSSIAN WORKERS DONATE A DAY OF LABOR TO THE, R GOVERNMENT, AND HERE ALMOST EVERY-BODY WORKS FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

INSIDE THE KREMLIN THIS SATURDAY WAS A WORKDAY AS WELL FOR THE CURRENT LEADER OF SOVIET COMMUNISM, PRESIDENT LEONID BREZHNEV. HE MET FOR TWO HOURS WITH SECRETARY VANCE WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO SITTING IN.

DESPITE RECURRING REPORTS ABOUT BREZHNEV'S DECLINING HEALTH, HE LOOKED BETTER THAN HE DID A YEAR AGO. VANCE AND BREZHNEV TALKED MOSTLY ABOUT NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL AND AFRICA.

AN AMERICAN SPOKESMAN SAID THERE WERE DISAGREEMENTS BUT NO HARSH EXCHANGES.

THE LAST TIME VANCE WAS HERE HE WENT PUBLIC WITH THE DETAILS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, THE RUSSIANS WERE FURIOUS

AND THE WHOLE NEGOTIATING PROCESS WAS SET BACK FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. THIS TIME AROUND, EVERYBODY HAS BEEN "SILENT LIKE FISH," TO USE ONE OF GROMYKO'S PHRASES, BUT IT'S CLEAR THAT SOME PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE. THE ATMOSPHERE HAS IMPROVED FOR CONTINUING THE TALKS AND THAT'S WHAT VANCE CAME HERE TO DO.

LATER, VANCE RETURNED TO THE PADDLE TENNIS COURT AT THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE FOR THE THIRD TIME IN TWO DAYS. THE RECREATION UNDERScoreD THE RELAXED PACE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS VISIT.

WHILE THE SECRETARY WAS STRUGGLING WITH OVERHEAD SHOTS, HIS AIDES WERE STRUGGLING WITH THE RUSSIANS OVER THE UNCLASSIFIED

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WORDING OF A JOINT COMMUNIQUE. BUT THE FINAL VERSION TURNED OUT TO BE AS ROUTINE AS THE BALLET DANCED WATCHED (SIC) AT THE BOLSHOI TONIGHT. (VOICEOVER DANCERS AND MUSIC) IT SAID MERELY THAT THE PARTIES HAD NARROWED THEIR POSITIONS ON SOME OF THE REMAINING ISSUES AND WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK INTENSIVELY TO CONCLUDE A NEW ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME.

ABC TV EVENING NEWS

ANCHOR: IN MOSCOW, ANOTHER ROUND OF STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS HAVE ADJOURNED WITH THE US AND THE USSR AGREEING ISSUES HAVE BEEN NARROWED AND THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE USEFUL AND THOROUGH. TO THE UNINITIATED, THAT MAY SOUND LIKE CUSTOMARY DIPLOMATIC RHETORIC, BUT BARRIE DUNSMORE REPORTS THAT THE NEWS IS INDEED OPTIMISTIC.

DUNSMORE: THE MOOD IN MOSCOW TODAY WAS A FESTIVE ONE AS MUSCOVITES CELEBRATED LENIN'S 108TH BIRTHDAY. INSIDE THE KREMLIN THE MOOD ALSO SEEMED GOOD AS PRESIDENT BREZHNEV WELCOMED SECRETARY VANCE TO HIS OFFICE FOR THE WINDUP MEETING OF VANCE'S THREE DAYS OF MOSCOW TALKS.

BREZHNEV SEEMED IN GOOD SPIRITS, BANTERED A BIT WITH THE PRESS AND APPEARED MORE VIGOROUS THAN WHEN HE HAD MET VANCE A YEAR AGO. THE MEETING LASTED FOR TWO HOURS AND BY ALL ACCOUNTS IT WAS A MUCH FRIENDLIER ENCOUNTER THAN A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE TALKS ENDED ON A VERY NEGATIVE NOTE, WITH THE SOVIETS TOTALLY REJECTING THE AMERICAN ARMS CONTROL PROPOSALS.

PRIOR TO VANCE'S ARRIVAL, THE SOVIETS HAD COMPLAINED THAT THE US WAS VACILLATING AND FOOTDRAGGING IN THE NEGOTIATIONS TO ACHIEVE A NEW STRATEGIC ARMS AGREEMENT. THERE WAS NO SUCH DISCORD TODAY.

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LATER TODAY VANCE FELT RELAXED ENOUGH TO PLAY PADDLE TENNIS. THE FACT THAT PICTURES WERE ALLOWED WAS IN ITSELF A STATEMENT THAT VANCE WAS SATISFIED ENOUGH WITH HIS WORK THAT HE DIDN'T MIND BEEING SEEN AT PLAY.

IN TERMS OF A NEW AGREEMENT TO LIMIT NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, THE ACTUAL ACOMPLISHMENTS OF THIS VISIT APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN MODEST. THERE WAS SOME MOVEMENT ON THE MAJOR OUTSTANDING ISSUES, BUT NO BREAKTHROUGHS. HOWEVER, IN THE BROADER CONTEXT OF US-SOVIET RELATIONS. THE VISIT HAS BEEN MORE SUCCESSFUL. PRIOR TO VANCE'S ARRIVAL THE SOVIETS WERE SAYING THAT RELATIONS WERE AT A CROSSROADS. FROM ALL APPEARANCES, WITH THESE TALKS, RELATIONS HAVE TAKEN A POSITIVE TURN.

CBS-TV EVENING NEWS

ANCHOR: SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE AND SOVIET PARTY CHAIRMAN BREZHNEV MET IN MOSCOW TODAY TO TALK ABOUT A NEW ARMS AGREEMENT BUT APPARENTLY MADE LITTLE HEADWAY.

KALB: VANCE APPARENTLY WANTED TO PROJECT OF A RELAXED SECRETARY OF STATE IN THE MIDST OF TOUGH NEGOTIATIONS. SO, AN EARLY MORNING GAME OF PADDLE TENNIS WITH OTHER AMERICANS. US AMBASSADOR MALCOLM TOON'S SHIRT WAS EMBLAZONED WITH TWO WORDS: "HARD LINER." IT WAS A BIT OF INDEOLOGICAL BRAVADO, NOT MEANT TO INTIMIDATE THE KREMLIN AS MUCH AS HIS MUCH AS HIS OPPONENTS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE NET.

THE KREMLIN WAS NEXT ON VANCE'S SCHEDULE, A GRAND FINALE NEGOTIATING SESSION WITH SOVIET LEADER BREZHNEV. IT WAS THEIR FIRST AND ONLY MEETING IN THREE DAYS OF US-SOVIET
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TALKS.

BREZHNEV, WHO'S IN HIS EARLY SEVENTIES, HAS HEALTH PROBLEMS. HE STRUCK AMERICAN REPORTERS AS PUFFY, MOVING SLOWLY, HIS SPEECH SLURRED AT TIMES, BUT STILL, LOOKING BETTER THAN WHEN THEY LAST SAW HIM HERE A YEAR AGO.

VANCE AND BREZHNEV TALKED MOSTLY ABOUT SALT, THEIR CLASHING VIEWS ON AFRICA, OTHER ISSUES. THE SOVIET LEADER RECENTLY ACCUSED THE US OF DRAGGING ITS FEET ON NEGOTIATING A NEW ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT, BUT THERE WAS NO MENTION OF THAT IN A JOINT COMMUNIQUE.

THE SALT TALKS WERE DESCRIBED AS USEFUL AND THOROUGH, WITH A NARROWING OF SOME OF THE CONFLICTING POSITIONS HELD BY WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW. BOTH SIDES AGREED TO WORK INTENSIVELY TO CONCLUDE A SALT TREATY AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME. ALSO, TO WORK FOR AN AGREEMENT ON THE TESTING OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

BUT US OFFICIALS EMPHASIZED THAT NO BREAKTHROUGH ON SALT HAD BEEN ACHIEVED, THAT DISAGREEMENTS STILL EXISTED ON VARIOUS ISSUES. NO PLANS WERE MADE FOR A US-SOVIET SUMMIT. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF ANY SOVIET RESTRAINING ACTION IN RETURN FOR PRESIDENT CARTER'S DECISION ON DEFERRING PRODUCTION OF THE NEUTRON BOMB.

VANCE WAS DETERMINED OF LAST YEAR'S DISASTROUS GET-TOGETHER HERE, WHEN THE US PROPOSED DRASTIC CUTS IN NUCLEAR STOCK-PILES AND THE RUSSIANS ANGRILY SAID NO. THIS TIME, VANCE

CAME TO MOSCOW WITH LESS AMBITIOUS GOALS -- VERY LIMITED, ALMOST MINIMUM EXPECTATIONS -- HOPING FOR SOME PROGRESS IN RESOLVING THE SALT ISSUES AND A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER IN THE TONE OF THE US-SOVIET DIALOGUE. HE FEELS THAT HE GOT AT LEAST THAT MUCH. IN OTHER WORDS, A VERY, VERY UNCLASSIFIED

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MODEST PLUS INSTEAD OF ANOTHER BIG MINUS FOR MOSCOW-WASHINGTON RELATIONS.

WITH THE DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS CONCLUDED, A CULTURAL CHANGE OF PACE, AN EVENING AT THE WORLD-FAMOUS BOLSHOI THEATER. VANCE WAS ESCORTED BY SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO THE US, ANATOLIY DOBRYNIN. THE PROGRAM: TSCHAIKOVSKY'S NUTCRACKER SUITE.

LATE TV ITEM - SENATOR HENRY JACKSON ON CBS "FACE THE NATION"

SENATOR JACKSON ACCUSED THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION OF BEING INEPT IN DEALING WITH THE SOVIET UNION, ESPECIALLY IN THE SALT TALKS. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE PROPOSALS UNDER NEGOTIATION BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES, INCLUDING THE JUST-CONCLUDED VANCE TALKS IN MOSCOW. UNDER THESE, HE SAID, "THE RUSSIANS GET MORE IN THE WAY OF STRATEGIC ARMS THAN WE GET." CHRISTOPHER

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